

PRESS QUERY

COMPANY (OpUnit or Corporate): MIC

SUBJECT: Trace levels of TCDD in orthochlorophenol

REPORTER & MEDIA: John Frank, Columbia Missourian
(314) 635-7292

TIME & DATE: 4:10 p.m., 2/15/79

QUESTION & RESPONSE:

<u>X</u>	News Bureau
<u>X</u>	J. T. Nolan
<u>X</u>	J. E. McKee
<u>X</u>	D. R. Bishop
—	W. J. McCarville
—	W. R. Mulhall
<u>X</u>	J. F. Hussey-Washington, D.C.
<u>X</u>	S. Pickard-Washington, D.C.
<u>X</u>	New York Public Relations
—	Brussels Public Relations
—	MAP PR
<u>X</u>	MCI PR
<u>X</u>	MIC PR
—	MPR PR
—	MTC PR
—	INT'L PR
<u>X</u>	J. R. Foehr
<u>X</u>	T. L. Gossage
<u>X</u>	E. H. Harbison
<u>X</u>	J. C. McPhillips
<u>X</u>	J. S. Metcalf

Q. When did EPA ask you to analyze the reserve sample?

A. Week of February 5.

Q. Why did you keep reserve sample?

A. Product quality, always keep sample.

Q. How long do you keep this sample?

A. I don't know.

Q. Why didn't you analyze sample before then?

A. Answer from position paper.

Q. Did you do any monitoring at Sturgeon?

A. Described air monitoring of OCP vapors.

Q. If this is an intermediate for PCP and they have TCDD's, why didn't you analyze OCP?

A. We use to make PCP for 35-40 years and never found any traces of TCDD in our product.

Q. No dioxins were ever found in PCP?

A. Explained that trace levels of other dioxins were found but no TCDD was found.

Q. If you had tested OCP for TCDD and never found any, why did you in this particular sample?

A. Answer from position paper.

Q. Who has the liability in this accident? A. The railroad.

SOURCE OF ANSWER

HANDLED BY:

Position paper

R. C. Isham

C00431

PRESS QUERY

COMPANY (OpUnit or Corporate): MIC

SUBJECT: STURGEON, MO., DERAILMENT

REPORTER & MEDIA: Chris Conway, Columbia Tribune
(314) 449-3811

TIME & DATE: February, 14, 1979 - 1:50 p.m.

QUESTION & RESPONSE:

<u>X</u>	News Bureau
<u>X</u>	J. T. Nolan
<u>X</u>	J. E. McKee
<u>X</u>	D. R. Bishop
—	W. J. McCarville
—	W. R. Mulhall
<u>X</u>	J. F. Hussey-Washington, D.C.
<u>X</u>	S. Pickard-Washington, D.C.
<u>X</u>	New York Public Relations
—	Brussels Public Relations
—	MAP PR
<u>X</u>	MCI PR (J. Spano)
<u>X</u>	MIC PR (G. Young)
—	MPR PR
—	MTC PR
—	INT'L PR
<u>X</u>	J. R. Foehr
<u>X</u>	T. L. Gossage
<u>X</u>	E. H. Harbison
<u>X</u>	J. C. McPhillips
<u>X</u>	J. S. Metcalf

Reporter read me Sen. Danforth's letter to Douglas Costle. It criticized the EPA for taking a month to learn there was dioxin in the spilled material and asked why the EPA didn't do tests routinely for dioxin in spill situations.

1. When did the EPA ask us to analyze reserve sample (during week of Feb. 5).
2. Who specifically asked for the analysis (Harry Gilmer).
3. Why didn't we suspect there was dioxin in our product (position paper).

SOURCE OF ANSWER Position Paper

HANDLED BY: R. C. Isham

C00432

February 14, 1979

OTS Is Preparing Option Paper on Use of Labeling As a Regulatory Option

Although stressing that at this point no commitment has been made to go forward with a Section 6 labeling standard, Kelly pointed out that she has a group of staffers looking at the option of developing a generic labeling standard as an alternative regulatory option under Section 6 (See Jan. 17, Page 2).

DeKany called the effort "development of an issue paper on the pros and cons of labeling" and emphasized that no major manpower commitment will be made to the project until that paper is evaluated.

Kelly observed that if the decision is made to go forward with labeling, it might develop on similar lines to the Section 4 testing rules, in that a labeling standard might be developed first and then, subsequently, labeling rules might be developed to apply the standards to a specific set of chemicals. She also noted that a labeling standard could be adopted voluntarily by industry and said that in some cases it would offer sufficient protection so that other regulation wouldn't be needed. The present interagency effort on labeling would feed into the Section 6 standard development effort if it is determined to proceed with a labeling standard at this time, Kelly said.

TCDD FOUND IN SOIL AT ORTHOCHLOROPHENOL SPILL SITE IN STURGEON, MO.

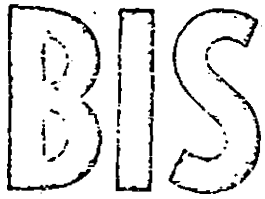
A soil sample taken from the site of an orthochlorophenol spill from a railroad tank car in Sturgeon, Mo., last month contained 2,3,7,8-TCDD at a level less than 0.01 p.p.b., according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Monsanto Chemical Company had told the agency that samples of the shipment of orthochlorophenol contained trace amounts of TCDD, according to three sampling results which were 34 p.p.b., 36 p.p.b., and 40 p.p.b., averaging 37 p.p.b.

Dr. Joseph Seifter, Senior Medical Advisor, Office of Toxic Substances, EPA, commented that the presence of TCDD "in the spilled material changes the scope of our review, but does not represent cause for alarm at the levels reported."

The contaminated area is being cleaned up, EPA said, and residents who were evacuated after the spill have returned to their homes. EPA said the TCDD finding "is of concern, but presents no cause for change in clean-up procedures currently underway."

This week, however, an EPA official said even though the levels of TCDD were low, the agency will do biological and in-house monitoring for TCDD in Sturgeon. The agency has also determined that soil clean-up is needed.

C00433



BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICES, INC.

25 E. Frisco — St. Louis, Missouri 63119

PHONE: 314-961-4113

CLIENT: Monsanto Company
PROGRAM: Newswatch
DATE: 2/11/79

STATION: KPLR-TV
TIME: 9:00 p.m.
CITY: St. Louis

BILL REES: "Monsanto Chemical Company has given the Environmental Protection Agency new information about a chemical spill a month ago.

"Chemicals spilled in a train derailment at Sturgeon contained traces of a contaminant, dioxin. Soil tests confirm this.

"EPA scientists say that the new information is of concern but there's no cause for changing the cleanup procedures that are now underway.

"The contaminated soil is being put in sealed drums which will be buried at an approved hazardous waste material site.

"Dioxin is one of the most toxic chemicals known."

COC434



BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICES, INC.

25 E. Frisco — St. Louis, Missouri 63119

PHONE: 314-961-4113

CLIENT: Monsanto Company
PROGRAM: KMOX News
DATE: 2/11/79

STATION: KMOX Radio
TIME: 5:00 p.m.
CITY: St. Louis

REPORTER: "The Environmental Protection Agency said today that trace quantities of the chemical, dioxin, was part of a group of chemicals spilled in a train derailment in Sturgeon, Missouri last month.

"The Monsanto Chemical Company informed the EPA early last week that dioxin, one of the most poisonous substances known to man, was contained in that shipment of chemical compounds that spilled in the January tenth derailment.

"Acting on the information, the EPA sent soil samples from the spill site to the University of Illinois at Champaign for testing.

"The tests revealed that the minute quantities of the toxin presents no threat to health. The EPA says cleanup procedures will continue as planned."

C00435